

REMARKS

Claims 1-10 and 12-13 are pending in this application. By this Amendment, claims 12 and 13 are added. Support for the subject matter recited in claims 12 and 13 may be found, for example, in Figs. 1A, 1B and 4A and in the specification on pages 17-19. No new matter is added. Reconsideration and prompt allowance of the application in view of the above amendments and at least the following remarks are respectfully requested.

I. The Claims Define Patentable Subject Matter

The Office Action rejects claims 1-4 and 6-10 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over U.S. Patent No. 6,437,836 to Huang et al. (hereinafter "Huang") in view of Japanese Patent Publication No. JP 2000370120 to Nagasaka et al.¹ (hereinafter "Nagasaka") and further in view of U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2000/0042247 to Inoue; and rejects claim 5 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Huang in view of Nagasaka and Inoue and further in view of U.S. Patent No. 7,061,648 to Nakajima et al. (hereinafter "Nakajima"). The rejections are respectfully traversed.

The Office Action concedes that neither Huang nor Nagasaka disclose the recited "scroll control unit changes a scroll amount based on a distance from the predetermined point of the specification point, and changes a scroll direction based on a direction of the specification point with respect to the predetermined point when the display is scrolled." The Office Action asserts that Inoue remedies this deficiency. Applicant respectfully disagrees.

Inoue cannot reasonably be considered to disclose this feature. Inoue discloses scrolling from portion of a display area to another portion of a display area based on selection of directional keys on a remote controller (see Inoue, paragraph [0070] and Figs. 5 and 6)

¹ The Office Action cites, in the alternative, Japanese Patent Publication Nos. JP 2000370121 to Nagasaka et al. or JP 000381519 to Nagasaka et al. or U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2004/0085352 to Nagasaka et al., which the Office Action relies on as a translation of the cited Japanese Patent Publications to Nagasaka et al.

(emphasis added). Because Inoue teaches scrolling based merely on the associated pressing of a directional key, Inoue fails to disclose any relationship between scrolling distance and a distance between a specification point and a predetermined point. Scrolling distance, as disclosed by Inoue, must be considered to be based on a constant scrolling distance associated with selection of a one of four directional keys on a remote controller. In other words, because the user, in Inoue, is limited to choosing one of four keys, a scrolling distance must be considered constant, based on a preset value, and not based on any distance between a specification point and a predetermined point.

Moreover, because claims 1 and 9 each recite "detecting a specification point on the display screen," the locations of keys 41-44 cannot appropriately be considered to be specification points. The Office Action fails to specify which structure of Inoue corresponds to the recited "specification point." However, Inoue fails to disclose that a user interacts with an actual display screen. Rather, Inoue discloses that scrolling activity on a display screen occurs as a result of interaction with a remote directional keypad. Thus, Inoue cannot reasonably be considered to disclose the recited "specification point."

Thus, for at least these reasons, independent claims 1 and 9 are patentable over Inoue in combination with the other applied references. Further, claims 2-8 and 10, which depend from claims 1 and 9, are also patentable over the applied references for at least the reasons discussed above, as well as for the additional features they recite. Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections are respectfully requested.

I. New Claims

By this Amendment, new claims 12 and 13 are presented. New claim 12 depends from claim 1 and, thus, distinguishes over the applied references for at least the reasons discussed above with respect to claim 1. Moreover, claim 12 recites that "the scroll control unit changes the scroll amount based on the distance from the predetermined point to the

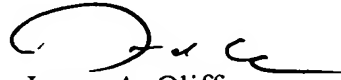
specification point such that the scroll amount increases based on increasing distance from the predetermined point to the specification point" (emphasis added). The Office Action concedes that Huang and Nagasaka fail to disclose the recited "changing a scroll amount based on a distance from the predetermined point of the specification point, and changes a scroll direction based on a direction of the specification point with respect to the predetermined point when the display is scrolled." Further, Inoue fails to teach a specification point being related to a predetermined point such that increasing distance from the predetermined point results in increased scrolling distance. Claim 13 is a method claim dependent from method claim 1 that recites a similar feature and is allowable for the above reasons. Thus, consideration and prompt allowance of claims 12 and 13 are respectfully requested.

II. Conclusion

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance of this application are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,



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